

Architectural Inventory Form

(Page 1 of 7)

I. IDENTIFICATION

1. Resource number: **5BL1159.45**
2. Temporary number: **N/A**
3. County: **Boulder**
4. City: **Longmont**
5. Historic building name: **Slater House**
6. Current building name: **Alexis House**
7. Building address: **608 Emery Street**
8. Owner name: **Raymond C. and Joan M. Alexis**
Owner address: **608 Emery Street**
Longmont, Colorado 80501

II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M. **6th** Township **2N** Range **69W**
SE¹/₄ of **NW¹/₄** of **SW¹/₄** of **NE¹/₄** of section **3**
10. UTM reference
Zone **13**
Easting: **491576**
Northing: **4446331**
11. USGS quad name: **Longmont, Colorado**
Year: **1968** (**Photorevised 1979**) **7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **South half 5** Block: **25**
Addition: **Longmont Original Town** Year of Addition **1872**
13. Boundary Description and Justification: **This legally defined parcel encompasses but does not exceed the land historically associated with this property.**

Official Eligibility Determination

(OAHP use only)

- Date _____ Initials _____
- ____ Determined Eligible - National Register
- ____ Determined Not Eligible - National Register
- ____ Determined Eligible - State Register
- ____ Determined Not Eligible - State Register
- ____ Needs Data
- ____ Contributes to eligible National Register District
- ____ Noncontributing to eligible National Register District

III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

14. Building plan (footprint, shape):
Rectangular Plan
15. Dimensions in feet **1190 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1.5**
17. Primary external wall material
Brick
Wood / Shingle
18. Roof configuration (enter one):
Gambrel Roof
19. Primary external roof material (enter one):
Asphalt Roof / Composition Roof
20. Special features (enter all that apply):
Chimney
Decorative Shingles
Fence
Porch
Stained Glass

22. Architectural style /
building type:

Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century Revivals / Dutch Colonial Revival

21. General Architectural Description

This high-style, Dutch colonial revival house is located on the east side of Emery Street, between 602 Emery Street to the south and 612 Emery Street to the north. A planted grass yard with mature landscaping surrounds the building and a wooden fence entirely encircles the backyard. The residence is set back fifty feet from the street and there is a wide grass strip separating the front sidewalk from the curb. Oriented to the west, the structure sits on a coursed sandstone foundation with one-light, hopper basement windows beneath sandstone lintels. Red pressed brick with thin white mortar clads the exterior walls and features a double belt course above the foundation. Blue-painted, square-cut wooden shingles fill the spacious gambrel ends. The cross-gambrel roof is steeply pitched and covered with gray asphalt shingles. The eaves are boxed and feature returns. A red brick chimney emerges at the junction of the roof ridges. The façade is generally symmetrical, with the front door offset to the north end of the front (west) elevation. Windows are generally one-over-one, double-hung sash with white-painted wooden frames; red-painted, wooden-frame storm windows; and white surrounds. Windows on the first floor open between sandstone sills and lintels while those in the gambrel ends have white-painted wooden surrounds with entablatures. The front gambrel end features a set of three, one-over-one, double-hung sash windows with diamond-shaped leaded glass in the transom light. The are flanked by red-painted wooden shutters and open beneath a red-and-white-striped canvas awning. The gambrel ends of the south, north and east elevations each have a pair of one-over-one, double-hung sash windows, with those on the south protected beneath a canvas awning. A small, fixed-pane pentagonal window pierces the north side of the east-facing gambrel. As we, a one-over-one, double-hung, stained-glass window opens at the center of the north elevation, between the brick first floor and shingled gambrel-end. IT corresponds with a landing on the houses' staircase. Widely spaced pairs of Doric columns support the full-width, hipped porch roof. A kneewall of blue-painted, square-cut wooden singles surrounds all the porch except for the north end of the front façade, which is approached by four concrete steps with wrought-iron railing. The glass-in-wood frame front door features beveled glass and a protruding locking rail. It opens behind a red-and-white-painted wooden screen door. The window to the south of the front door is one-over-one, fixed-pane with a narrow transom light. A red-painted wooden deck of asymmetrical shape dominates the east elevation. It is accessed via a three-panel, glass-in-wood-frame door and wooden screen door on the north end of the east elevation.

A garage built to resemble a barn is east of the house. Accessed from the alley behind the property, the garage is a one-and-a-half-story, rectangular structure. It has a concrete foundation, and is clad in blue-painted, vertical weatherboard with white, one-by-four-inch cornerboards. Facing east and west, large central wall dormers dominate the side-gabled roof, which is covered in gray asphalt shingles. The eaves are boxed. All windows have red-painted frames and white surrounds. Dominating the east elevation is a wooden, two-car, retractable garage door. It is offset to the north to accommodate an eight-panel door and narrow, one-light casement windows. The dormer above has been framed to resemble a hay loft and contains a pair of six-light casement windows. The south elevation features a pair of aluminum-frame sliding windows concentrated on the west side and two large, one-light casement windows in the gable end.

22. Architectural style / building type:

Please see front page.

23. Landscape or setting special features:

This dwelling is located on the east side of Emery Street, in one of Longmont's oldest core residential neighborhoods. The area is now home to a mixture of single-family residences, small retail shops, professional offices, and a few small apartment buildings.

24. Associated buildings, features, or objects

Garage with Apartment

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of Construction:
Estimate
Actual **1906**

Source of information:
"Water Ledger, City of Longmont, 1905-1906."

26. Architect:
unknown

Source of information:
n/a

27. Builder/ Contractor:
James, Frank and Oliver Wiggins.

Source of information:
Visual comparison with 534 Emery street, a known Wiggins-constructed house. See construction history.

28. Original owner:
F.B. Slater

Source of information:
Warranty Deed 90021322

29. Construction History (include description and dates of major additions, alterations, or demolitions):

On file at the Longmont Public Library, a 1985 Colorado historic resource inventory form lists this structure's date of construction as 1891 based on a water tap permit and associates the house with D.C. Donovan. However, property records and Sanborn insurance maps do not support either conclusion. The addition of a rear deck has been the only notable alteration of this house. A garage was constructed between 1918 and 1930 at the east end of the property. It was accessed from Emery Street via a brick driveway, a portion of which still exists. In the 1970's, owner Jayme Shroyer built the new garage with upstairs apartment on the site of the old garage. The residence shares many characteristics with known Wiggins-built houses, including an offset front door, paired Doric columns, fixed-pane front window, and red pressed brick with a double belt course.

30. Original location: **yes**
Moved **no**
Date of move(s) **n/a**

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Domestic / Single Dwelling**
32. Intermediate use(s): **Domestic / Single Dwelling**
33. Current use(s): **Domestic / Single Dwelling**
34. Site type(s): **Residence**

35. Historical Background

Until late 1906, this property was associated with 612 Emery Street. In that year, Frank and Lena Chlanda sold the vacant south half of their lot to F.B. Slater, who apparently had James Wiggins and his son construct this large, Dutch colonial revival house. Slater lived here five years before selling the property to Sylvester E. and Mary Gail Tice, who resided at this address for the next thirty-three years. Sylvester married Gail Smith on October 3, 1901, at Prairie City, Iowa. They moved to a farm near Monroe, Iowa, where they lived for the next decade. They moved to Longmont in 1912, when they purchased this house. Sylvester continued to tend farming interests around the Longmont area. Together, the Tices had three children. Sylvester died in 1958. Gail sold the house in 1977 before moving into a personal care home. She died two years later.

From 1977 to 1992, this house was home to Jayme D. Shroyer, a contractor. Margaret A. and Lucie Schatte owned the house for the next two years, until selling it to Raymond C. and Joan M. Alexis in 1994. Raymond is a retired Bell Laboratories employee. An avid chess enthusiast, he displays his gigantic collection of chess sets and related artifacts throughout the house and maintains the apartment above the garage as his chess library.

36. Sources of Information

Alexis, Raymond C. and Joan M. Interview with Adam Thomas, 30 July 2001.

(Boulder County) "Real Estate Appraisal Card – Urban Master," On file at the Boulder Carnegie Library.

"Mary Gail Tice." (obituary) Longmont Times-Call, 13 July 1979, p. 14.

Polk's Boulder County Directory [generally published annually], Denver, Kansas City, and Salt Lake City: R.L. Polk and Company Publishers.

Polk's Longmont City Directory, [generally published annually], Denver, Kansas City, and Salt Lake City: R.L. Polk and Company, Publishers, 1966 - 1997.

"S.E. Tices To Celebrate 50th Wedding." Longmont Times-Call, 4 October 1951, p. 4.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, dated December 1890, September 1895, November 1900, April 1906, June 1911, March 1918, June 1930, and May 1956.

Warranty Deeds 90054865, 90092355, 90415610, 220037, 1197217, and 1393103. Boulder County Office of Clerk and Recorder, Boulder, Colorado.

VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation:

Yes

No **xx**

Date of Designation: **n/a**

38. **Applicable National Register Criteria**

xx A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;

B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

xx C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;

D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield information important in history or prehistory;

Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (see Manual).

Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

City of Longmont Standards for Designation

xx 2.56.040-A (1) The structure or district has character, interest or value, as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the city, state or nation.

2.56.040-A (2) The structure or district is the site of a historic event with an effect upon society.

2.56.040-A (3) The structure or district is identified with a person or group of persons who had some influence on society.

xx 2.56.040-A (4) The structure or district exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social or historic heritage of the community.

2.56.040-B (1) The structure or district portrays the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.

xx 2.56.040-B (2) The structure or district embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen.

xx 2.56.040-B (3) The structure or district is the work of an architect or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of Longmont.

2.56.040-C (1) The structure or district, because of being part of or related to a square, park or other distinctive area, should be developed or preserved according to a plan based on a historic, cultural or architectural motif.

xx 2.56.040-C (2) The structure or district, due to its unique location or singular physical characteristics, represents an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, community or the city.

Does not meet any of the above City of Longmont Standards for Designation.

39. Area(s) of Significance:

Architecture; Community Planning and Development; Ethnic Heritage / European

40. Period of Significance: **1906-1951**

41. Level of Significance:

National:

State:

Local: **XX**

42. Statement of Significance

This property is significant for its association with residential development in Longmont, beginning in the late 1800's and extending through the first half of the twentieth century. The residence is also architecturally significant because it is an intact, high-style, cross-gambrel, Dutch colonial revival house, rare on the East Side. It exhibits the characteristics and craftsmanship of a master builder, James Wiggins, and his sons. The property's combined levels of historical significance and physical integrity are to the extent that it would qualify for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The property certainly may be regarded as individually eligible to be designated as a City of Longmont landmark. This property is also a contributing resource within this National Register and local landmark district.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

This residence displays a high degree of physical integrity, relative to the seven aspects of integrity defined by the National Park Service and the Colorado Historical Society: location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The only exterior alteration to the building subsequent to its construction was the addition of a rear deck.

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:

Eligible: **xx**

Not Eligible:

Need Data:

City of Longmont Local Landmark eligibility field assessment:

Eligible: **xx**

Not Eligible:

Need Data:

45. Is there National Register district potential?

Yes: **n/a (see below)**

No: **n/a (see below)**

Discuss: **The property is located within the East Side Historic District, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.**

If there is National Register district potential, is this building:

Contributing: **n/a**

Noncontributing: **n/a**

46. If the building is in an existing National Register district, is it:

Contributing: **xx**

Noncontributing:

VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph numbers:

Roll: **LONG-15 and LONG-16**

Frame(s): **Roll 15: 34-36 (house); Roll 16: 1-3 (garage)**

Negatives filed at: **City of Longmont
Department of Community Development, Planning Division
Civic Center Complex
350 Kimbark Street
Longmont, Colorado 80501**

48. Report title: **East Side Neighborhood: Historic Context and Survey Report**

49. Date: **July 30, 2001**

50. Recorders: **Adam Thomas**

51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**

52. Address: **1607 Dogwood Court
Fort Collins, Colorado 80525**

53. Phone number: **970/493-5270**